

(e) pressing a sheet metal disk having a desired diameter and a substantially uniform thickness in the hydroforming press to form a steel pan head having a plurality of individual raised convex note producing shapes formed therein, which produce a resonant sound when struck by a mallet;

(f) heat treating the steel pan head;

(g) trimming the outer edge of the steel pan head; and

(h) attaching a side skirt to the pan head to form a Caribbean steel pan.--

Cancel Claim 14 without prejudice.

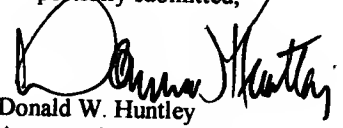
REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested on the basis of the above amendments, which are believed to obviate the remaining objections of the Examiner. The applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interviews courteously granted to applicants' attorney on August 15 and 17, 2000.

The above amendments to Claim 1 are consistent with the telephone interviews with the Examiner, and comply with the suggested changes in the Office Action. Accordingly, the rejection in numbered section 2 of the Office Action is considered to be obviated, placing remaining Claims 1-13 in condition for immediate allowance.

If, for reasons not understood by the applicants, any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expedite their resolution.

Respectfully submitted,


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DWH:tjw
Whitmyre et al. v. International Patent & Trademark Association, Inc.